

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

THURSDAY

MARCH 26, 1914

REAPING THE CONSEQUENCES—HURT BY NATIONAL POLICY, HURT BY WEAK MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION

The city and county of Honolulu has found itself in serious financial straits, and the supervisors are desperately slashing salaries, cutting down improvement appropriations and reducing current expenses generally.

Part of the very grave problem is due to the blow to Hawaiian industry and Hawaiian business dealt by the Wilson-Underwood tariff bill.

The supervisors find that the city revenues, mainly derived from taxes, will fall far below their estimates. The tax valuations for assessment purposes, as shown by the Star-Bulletin when the territorial tax board met two weeks ago, will drop tremendously.

It is fair to state that the drop in tax valuations and in resultant revenues is not all due to an outlook made gloomy by the national administration's tariff policy. Part of it is due to the low price for sugar. That cannot be averted. But the tariff policy has hurt every other business in Hawaii and directly exerted a "bearish" influence on tax returns.

Insofar as thus decreased revenues are upsetting the financial plans of the city, the supervisors are not to blame. The national administration's blow to sugar is responsible.

But the supervisors are responsible, they are to blame, for a weak, short-sighted and reckless financial policy in the spending of the city and county funds.

They are responsible for permitting the spoils system of politics to run the city's overhead charges to a startling figure.

They are to blame for permitting a system of salary raises to loot the city treasury.

The working majority on the board of supervisors, even though possibly well-meaning, is responsible for absolutely unnecessary extravagance in city business. Supervisor Pacheco consistently, Supervisor Wolter at times and Mayor Fern spasmodically, have objected to the steadily-growing salary list that has been swollen under the present Democratic board, until it is out of all reason.

Week after week and month after month, ever since the present board took office, the Star-Bulletin has pointed out the road travelled by the supervisors. The news and editorial columns of this paper will show that the facts and figures have been laid before the public, that earnest protest has been made against extravagance, and that in spite of all objections the majority of the board has gone ahead as if the long lane of money-spending had no turning.

The present supervisors took office on the first of January, 1913. They had been elected on a platform of economy. They had pledged themselves to run the city and county better than the previous board had done. For several weeks, after election and prior to taking office, they had told of great plans for saving the public funds.

Their first actions indicated that they would carry out in good faith this program of economy. On January 8, 1913, the Star-Bulletin printed the following:

NEW BOARD CUTS \$7,000 IN SALARIES

More Work on Roads Will Be Feature of Bourbon Administration

More than seven thousand dollars, saved during the first six months of 1913 by the new board of supervisors, through the cutting-down of salary charges, is to be reinvested in road work throughout the city and county of Honolulu.

The new board's budget for the first six months of 1913 is \$335,590. The retiring board's budget for the last six months of 1912 was \$287,817. The new board, therefore, is spending \$47,773 more for six months than the old board.

Editorially on the same date this paper declared:

"The Star-Bulletin would point out that the people voted Democrats into office because the Republicans had failed to satisfy the voters on the score of efficiency, and because the Democrats promised a better, more economical, more businesslike city government."

"The will of the people kept Auditor James Bicknell, Republican, in office because he is efficient; the will of the people kept City Clerk Kalauokalani,

Another superstition exploded—"Confirmation Day" isn't necessarily Tuesday. A second superstition exploded is that it isn't necessarily Thursday.

Col. Seely, secretary of state for war, seems to have about as pleasant a job right now as Col. Bryan with Mexico on his hands.

And Mott-Smith can go to Japan with a light heart.

Republican, in office because he is efficient; the will of the people kept City Attorney Cathcart in office because he is efficient. The rest of the Republicans went down to defeat, but the men who had proved their ability were returned to office. The people demand efficiency, and whether the party designation of the efficient man is Republican or Democrat matters little. That is the basic fact behind the hundreds of independent votes that were cast last November to put the present office-holders in power."

Then came the reversal of attitude—due very largely to pressure of partisan politics—with a suddenness that was ludicrous. The indications were apparent when on February 3, 1913, the Star-Bulletin published this editorially:

"The supervisors went into office with considerable shouting about economy. They slashed salaries right and left. There was to be a notable reduction in the high cost of running the city. Three weeks passed. The city fathers have gained a reputation for trying to save the taxpayers' money. Up go the salaries. Only one member, Pacheco, stood out against the plan to put the figures back to just what they used to be. Is this economy? Verily, no."

Time after time during the next five months the supervisors were urged to go slow, to guard prudently and determinedly the city's financial resources, to disregard patronage politics and live up to their pledge with the people for efficiency and economy. Did they do it?

The middle of their first year came along, and with it the adoption of a new six months' budget. The files of the Star-Bulletin of June 16 tell the story. A news story in a two-column head said:

RAISING SALARIES, SUPERVISORS ABANDON EARLY "ECONOMY" PLANS

Majority Approve Program Calling for Many Increases—Mayor Fern and Pacheco Oppose—Much Money To Be Spent on Good Roads Work

A general salary raise for city and county subordinates whose pay was cut on a program of economy by the Democratic administration six months ago is now the proposal of the same administration. The board of supervisors and the mayor met in lengthy caucuses yesterday afternoon and evening to go over the budget for the next six months. They decided upon a total budget of something over \$434,480, the exact figures to be worked out later, of which \$163,900 will go into permanent street and road-improvements.

They also approved a long list of increases in monthly salaries, by which most of the economies in this direction effected at the beginning of their term of office will be lost. The city hall and other municipal employees who were then visited with a salary cut are to be restored to their former pay and in several instances there will be material raises. This part of the caucus program was not decided upon until after strong opposition on the part of both Mayor Fern and Supervisor Pacheco.

Editorially on the same date this paper commented:

"Honolulu's Democratic board of supervisors, going into office six months ago blaring the trumpets of economy and promising the taxpayers a money-saving administration, is even now on the verge of a general salary-raise that is entirely unwarranted at this time."

"Now it is proposed—and the proposal seems likely to be carried into action—to restore the salaries in most cases to the original figures. In several conspicuous instances Democratic officeholders whose pay had not originally been cut are to share in the present general increase."

"Cool wisdom is the necessity of the day in Hawaii's business affairs. With sugar at a low price and the immediate tariff situation not the brightest, it is the part of acumen to go slow in adding to financial responsibilities that must be met month by month. Clearly there is no warrant for the supervisors, in view of the business situation and the crying need for many permanent improvements, to add one dollar to an already unjustifiable load of running expenses for this city and county."

The raises were made; department expenses were allowed to grow and grow and grow.

If the supervisors had stayed manfully by their announced program of economy, the blow would not now fall so heavily. It would not be necessary to cripple city departments as they are to be crippled.

The day of spending has gone; the reckoning is at hand; the bill must be paid.

And the voters, particularly the taxpayers, of the city and county are not going to forget the fact.

H. P. Wood assures Hawaii that the exposition will be there in 1915 when all of us go up to see it.

Sir Newton Moore's short visit to Hawaii was enough to create a local desire for better acquaintance.

In Who's Who now write, "Thayer's there."

Torreon again, off again.

'SHRINE SHIP' GETS BIG ALOHA FROM SEATTLE

Greatest Pilgrimage in History
of Order Completed—Manila
Roster Is Increased

Completing the greatest pilgrimage in the history of their order, 156 Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, members of their families and friends, representing every important temple in the United States and Canada, reached Seattle at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon from ports in the Orient aboard the Great Northern Steamship Company's liner Minnesota, says the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. More than 2000 persons, the greatest throng ever assembled on a Seattle pier to welcome an over-ocean craft, greeted the Minnesota as she entered the slip at the Great Northern wharf, Smith cove. Nile Temple band, which had been playing popular selections from the time the big liner hove in sight off Magnolia bluff, struck up "Home, Sweet Home," and a mighty cheer went up from the great throng at the pier.

Flying a full set of multicolored flags, the "Shrine ship" presented a pretty sight as Capt. J. C. Hall, the veteran Puget Sound pilot, negotiated the ship and made a skillful landing at the pier.

As the throng of Shriners came down the gangway, music was furnished by Nile Temple band and the ship's Filipino orchestra stationed on deck. The pilgrimage to the Orient was made under the auspices of Nile Temple, of Seattle, and its object was the conferring of the order of shrimedon in full form on about 150 novices in Manila, who were added to the roster of the Seattle temple. The ceremony was performed on January 31, and was the most elaborate ever conducted outside of the United States. It was under the direction of officers of Nile Temple acting by a special dispensation granted by Imperial Potentate William W. Irwin of West Virginia.

Many Festivities. While in Manila the Shriners visited Bilibid prison, went on an excursion to Los Baños and the Pagsanjan gorge, and visited the Moro camp at the exposition grounds. There were automobile rides about the city, a reception by Governor-general and Mrs. Harrison at Malacanang palace, a reception by Bamboo Oasis, and a banquet at the Manila hotel following the initiation of the novices.

The big social event of the week's festivities at Manila was a grand ball held in the Carnival auditorium. Just before the ball the Shriners in a body attended the wedding of Miss Myra C. Benson and Leroy N. Knettle, both members of the party, who met for the first time when the Minnesota sailed from Seattle. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Paul Dotz of Hilo at the Manila Presbyterian church. The bride was given away by Charles Bryant of Seattle. Her attendant was Miss Helen Blackburn of Tacoma, while Purser Jerry Henderson of the Minnesota acted as best man.

The first official act of Potentate John Rex Thompson when he stepped ashore after his 10,000-mile pilgrimage to Manila was to sign a contract with a circus to handle a Shrine circus for Nile Temple, April 27, 28 and 29.

The Minnesotan had an uneventful voyage across the Pacific, being favored by fine weather all the way. Pledge Support to Seattle.

Dr. Augustus Havgott, Cincinnati; Peter Piton, Fargo, N. D., and L. C. Uhl, Kansas, members of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, who made the pilgrimage to Manila and the Orient, last night pledged their support to Nile Temple in its bid for the 1915 convention at the meeting in Atlanta, next May. The Shriners spoke in Eagles' hall at a reception tendered the visitors by Nile Temple.

Mayor Cottrell, John Rex Thompson, illustrious potentate of Nile Temple; John R. McLean and Daniel A. Trefethen, past potentates of Nile Temple; John C. Slater, Ellis Lewis Garretson of Tacoma; Donald B. Olson and W. M. Peas, made addresses, all urging unified effort in bringing the 1915 convention to this city. Gift to John L. McLean.

John L. McLean was presented with a gold-handled ebony walking stick, a gift of the novices of the Manila class who were initiated in Manila, January 31, by the members of Nile Temple who made the pilgrimage. The handle bore the coat of arms of the Philippines and the emblem of the Shriners. In Manila, Mr. Thompson was presented with a like gift.

Seven hundred Shriners and their families were present at last night's reception. A Filipino orchestra.

DR. COOPER MADE MEDICAL HEAD OF CIVIL SERVICE

Examinations of applicants for positions in the police and fire departments will be held May 2 at 1 o'clock in the Central Grammar School, according to a decision made by the civil service commission last night at its meeting. Several applications have been made for places in both departments.

Dr. C. B. Cooper was appointed the medical examiner of applicants. The physical examiner has not been named, nor has a person been appointed to conduct the written examinations. The meeting was short. After it was over Chairman Edings listened to the supervisors in their deliberations on retrenchment. He was not present, however, when it was brought out that the commissioners will be asked to serve without pay after the present year. They are now allowed \$100 a year each. The supervisors said they felt it would not be proper to cut this allowance at this time.

LITTLE INTIMENTS

E. A. MOTT-SMITH: This is my last day as chairman of the public utilities commission. It certainly will be a relief to be out.

CAPTAIN JENS STEJDE: I have served with the 4th Cavalry for 12 years, and am sorry that my recent promotion takes me out of the regiment.

SIR NEWTON MOORE: I'll forget to boost for West Australia the first thing I know, and boost for Hawaii. I made a mistake in not planning to stay here longer.

GENERAL EDWARDS: While the scenery at the Country Club is delightful, there are more hidden receptacles for golf balls off the course than the average golfer cares for.

THOMAS TREADWAY (who no longer is marriage license agent): Ish kapalanalo. That's the Hawaiian for "I should worry." Of course there's a little yiddish mixed with it, though.

A. T. LONGLEY: The sales of the territorial marketing division last month amounted to about \$2100, the largest amount since the work started. This month's sales will about double that.

FRANK BARRARE: In order to boom my marriage license business I have decided to give with each license, for a limited time, one of my patent floor mops. This should be a big inducement.

SIDNEY R. JORDAN: Who told you I was standing in front of a store pricing high-grade furniture yesterday? 'Tain't true. I was only explaining to one of the clerks that the company should put thicker plate glass in its windows, don't ye know.

A. HECKSCHER (New York): This is a beautiful place and I like everything I have seen here during the past two weeks except your roads. What is the matter? Is it that you spend all your money on schools and have none left for road work.

CAPTAIN CHARLES CAMPBELL: That a steel steamer with wooden superstructure and carrying a full equipment of boats and rafts could go down with all hands on board in less than 15 seconds would be an unheard-of occurrence in the annals of world's shipping disasters.

JAMES A. KENNEDY: We had no time to consider the value of the steamer Maui with the lives of more than 40 officers and men at stake. We are doing everything possible to relieve the anxiety of members of those on board the vessel, following the report of the safe arrival at Keala.

TEACHERS IN PHILIPPINES TO RESIGN BY WHOLESALE

MANILA.—It is rumored here that at the close of the present school year more than two hundred American school teachers will resign their positions with the government. This number is said to include two division superintendents. This reduction will make a great difference in educational work in the archipelago.

brought from Manila to furnish entertainment for the returning pilgrims on the steamship Minnesota, played selections during the evening.

Rev. Gaudentius Payden, retreat master of the Blessed Gabriel monastery at Brighton, Mass., died recently.

If it's Jewelry--and broken---it
can best be repaired by

Wichman & Co.
Jewelers

Personal Mentions

R. L. AUSTIN, was a passenger from Maui in the Inter-Island steamer Claudine this evening.

H. M. AYRES, is back from a flying trip to Maui, where he went in the interest of a coming racing meeting to be held at Kahului in July.

DAVID GLASS, a member of the Star-Bulletin staff, who has been under treatment at the Fort Shafter hospital is reported to be getting along nicely.

J. W. FRANCIS, who has been ill at his home in Kaimuki for the past several days with a severe attack of bronchitis, is reported as being slightly better today.

Claudine an Arrival from Maui.

The schooner Sailor Boy was the only vessel at Kahului at the time the Inter-Island steamer Claudine sailed from that port for Honolulu. The steamer returned this morning with a small cargo, her officers reporting fine weather in crossing the channel. The freight list included 2220 sacks of sugar, 30 sacks of spuds, 208 sacks of taro, 44 sacks of corn, 6 sacks of bran, 18 crates of chickens, 8 hogs, 3 autos and 128 packages of sundries. The Claudine will be dispatched for Maui ports at 5 o'clock tomorrow evening.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT BIG SUCCESS WITH MOROS

[By Latest Mail]

MANILA.—That civil government is an unqualified success and that peace and prosperity reign supreme in the recently created department of Mindanao and Sulu, was the information vouchsafed by Governor Frank W. Carpenter this morning, in reply to a question asked by a Times representative as to the conditions in the Moro country since the governor's assumption of office.

Governor Carpenter arrived from Zamboanga this morning in the coastal guard cutter Mindanao, to confer with the commission on legislative matters pertaining to his domain.

The proposed abolition of the legislative council of the province is one of the subjects that will be discussed during the presence of Governor Carpenter in Manila. With Governor Carpenter on the Mindanao came Bishop Brent, who has spent some time in Mindanao, and Mr. Coleman, connected with the educational department in the southern island.

Calling at the Ayuntamiento immediately after his arrival, Governor Carpenter was heartily greeted by the governor-general and the members of the commission. "Glad to see you back; we have missed you a great deal," Governor-general Harrison said as he shook hands with the chief executive of the department of Mindanao and Sulu.

Charles C. Knowles, confidential secretary for Hubbard Brothers & Co., cotton brokers, dropped dead in Brooklyn while on the way to his office in Manhattan.

Manoa Home For Sale

2-story bungalow with modern conveniences; 3 bedrooms, splendid marine and mountain view. Well planted lawn, with shrubs and fruit trees. Price \$6500.

Trent Trust Co.

Fort, bet. King and Merchant

WATCHES

BEST TERMS.
BEST GRADES

VIEIRA JEWELRY CO., Ltd. 115 Hotel St.

Henry Waterhouse Trust Co., Limited,

Real Estate for Sale

Building lots near town, on Miller street, \$1300 to \$2000, according to size.

Spreckels Tract lots opposite Oahu College, 100x100, for \$1600.

Acres lots at Fruitvale, Palolo Valley, \$600 per acre.

Kaimuki, Ocean View and Palolo Hill lots, \$400 and up.

Henry Waterhouse Trust Co.
Limited,
Cor. Fort and Merchant Sts. HONOLULU, T. H.

Are You Interested in Beach Property

We have to offer 3 Kahala Beach lots, each having a frontage of 120 feet. This property is very desirable for summer homes, as it is close to Honolulu, enabling the business man to attend to his affairs.

For terms and conditions apply to

Guardian Trust Co., Ltd.,
205 Bank of Hawaii Building.